

REMARKS

Status of the Application

All of the pending claims 1-30 in the instant Application stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner proffers that “all of the elements of the apparatus claim could be implemented in software alone.”

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. Specifically, independent claim 11 recites “[a] system for customizing a requested document for sending to a target device comprising at least one hypertext markup language (HTML) element.” Thus, even if each of the “modules” recited in independent claim 11 could be considered to be implemented in software alone, this recitation of a “system” provides the necessary structure to make independent claim 11 statutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Obviousness Rejection

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over W3C’s “*Introduction to CSS2*,” (<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/intro.html#processing-model>); hereinafter “*Intro to CSS2*”) in view of *Traughber et al.* (WO 98/14896; hereinafter “*Traughber*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Intro to CSS2* and *Traughber*, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest that the claimed feature of applying “at least one rule of the

style sheet to the DOM” is performed within a document server (Claim 1) or system (Claim 11), where the style sheet rule is directed to a target device, as recited in independent claims 1 and 11. Likewise *Intro to CSS2* and *Traughber* fail to teach or suggest an article of manufacture, as recited in Claim 21, having similar features.

Specifically, while *Intro to CSS2* discloses that it utilizes style sheets, it specifies that the style sheets are applied to a parsed source document at the client (i.e., user or target) side, rather than at the recited server or system side. This configuration is similar to the deficient “relevant technology” discussed on pages 1-5 of the instant Application. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the *Intro to CSS2* system would suffer from the same problems as the “relevant technology” described in the background section of the Application, *i.e.*, many “user agents” (*i.e.*, web browsers) do not support style sheets. The Examiner seems to generally concede that Applicant’s reading of *Intro to CSS2* is correct, as he indicates that: (1) *Intro to CSS2* fails to teach or suggest “that customizing a requested document is done on the server side” (*O.A.*, p. 3 and p. 6); and (2) therefore, *Intro to CSS2* “alone lacks a proper motivation to customize documents on a document server instead of a client system” (*O.A.*, p. 6).

Nevertheless, in an attempt to show that the features missing from *Intro to CSS2* were known, the instant Office Action cites *Traughber*, taking the position that this secondary reference discloses “that customizing the requested document can be done on the server side (Page 2, lines 3-14)(Fig. 2: 32)” (*O.A.*, pg. 3). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As previously discussed in the June 7, 2005 *Amendment*, *Traughber* discloses that a web server may retrieve a template from memory to create a new HTML page, which is then parsed

and processed to embed data therein (pg. 5, lines 17-23). Thus, *Traughber* is directed to the preparation of a new HTML page, and the insertion of specific data therein, and not the customization of a web page for a target device.

Further, even if the *Traughber* method could be read as somehow customizing an HTML page for a particular target device (which Applicant does not concede), such an overly broad interpretation still would fail to teach or suggest the recited features, as *Traughber* is simply silent on the application of style sheets to a DOM on a server (or system) side. In fact, *Traughber* is completely silent regarding any use of any style sheet. Thus, Applicant still maintains that *Traughber* fails to correct the conceded deficiencies of *Intro to CSS2*.

In response to the above (in the instant *Office Action*), the Examiner: (1) concedes that *Traughber* fails to teach or suggest any particular use of style sheets (*O.A.*, pg. 6); (2) alleges that *Traughber* is not being relied upon to show the use of style sheets (*O.A.*, pg. 6); and (3) alleges that *Traughber* “and what was notoriously well known in the art teach server side document processing providing the benefit of decreased processing load on the client” (*O.A.*, p. 7).

Regarding argument (1), Applicant agrees, and respectfully submits that this conceded failure means that there is no teaching or suggestion in either reference to apply style sheets to a DOM at the server side, as recited in the independent claims. Rather, the only teaching or suggestion in either reference (in *Intro to CSS2*) regarding the use of style sheets specifies their use at the client side.

Regarding argument (2), Applicant recognizes that the Examiner is not relying on *Traughber* to disclose the use of style sheets. However, Applicant respectfully submits that this

is precisely the problem with the current rejection. Specifically, Applicant is arguing that *Intro to CSS2* discloses the client-side use of style sheets, and *Traughber* offers no teaching or suggestion that would lead one of skill to modify the *Intro to CSS2* system to use style sheets on the server side. *Traughber* merely discloses the creation of a web page, and its related processing, on a server.

Regarding argument (3), Applicant respectfully submits that it is not relevant to the instant Application whether or not *Traughber* broadly discloses server side document processing. What is relevant to the instant rejection is that *Traughber* fails to teach or suggest the use of style sheets on the server side, as recited in the independent claims.

Thus, in view of the above, Applicant maintains that the disclosure of *Traughber* would not have led one of skill to modify the specific processing disclosed in *Intro to CSS2*. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 11 and 21 are patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that rejected dependent claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-30 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-30.

Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/512,560

Attorney Docket # A8643 /
ST9-99-153

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Cremen
Registration No. 50,855

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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